- 44. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein said zeolite is present in a quantity ranging from 70 to 90% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 45. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein said zeolite is present in a quantity ranging from 5 to 30% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 46. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is molybdenum.
- 47. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt is present in a quantity ranging from 1 to 10% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 48. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt is present in a quantity ranging from 2 to 6% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 49. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is present in a quantity ranging from 4 to 20% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 50. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the metal of group VIB is present in a quantity ranging from 7 to 13% by weight with respect to the total weight of the catalyst.
- 51. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt and the metal of group VIB are present in a molar ratio no greater than 2.
- 52. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein cobalt and the metal of group VIB are present in a molar ratio no greater than 1.

- 53. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the oxide comprises an element Z selected from the group consisting of silicon, aluminum, titanium, zirconium, and combinations thereof.
- 54. (New) The catalytic composition according to Claim 41, wherein the oxide is alumina or alumina mixed with an oxide selected from the group consisting of silica and zirconia.
- 55. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and optionally one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

impregnating the beta zeolite with a solution comprising a salt of a metal of group VIB and a salt of cobalt;

drying the impregnated beta zeolite; and

calcinating said zeolite.

56. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:

mixing the zeolite with the oxide;

extruding the mixture;

calcinating the mixture;

optionally reducing the sodium content of the mixture with an exchange process;

drying the resultant mixture;

impregnating said mixture with a solution containing a salt of a metal of group VIB;

drying the impregnated mixture;

calcinating the mixture;

impregnating said mixture with a solution of a salt of a cobalt; drying the impregnated solution; and calcinating said mixture.

- 57. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:
- a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a soluble salt of cobalt, a beta zeolite, and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;
- b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising a soluble salt of the metal of group VIB, and optionally, tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R₄NOH;
  - c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous dispersion to obtain a gel;
  - d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;
  - e) drying the gel; and
  - f) calcinating the gel.
  - 58. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the salt of cobalt is nitrate.
- 59. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the organic compound capable of generating the oxide is the corresponding alkoxide, wherein substituents of the oxide have the formula (R'O)- wherein R' is an alkyl containing from 2 to 6 carbon atoms.
- 60. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein the alkoxide comprises an element Z selected from the group consisting of silicon, aluminum, titanium, zirconium, and mixtures thereof.
- 61. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula (R'O)<sub>3</sub>Al is used, wherein R' is isopropyl or sec-butyl.

- 62. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula (R'O)<sub>4</sub>Si is used, wherein R' is ethyl.
- 63. (New) The process according to Claim 59, wherein a trialkoxide having the formula (R'O)<sub>4</sub>Zr is used, wherein R' is isopropyl.
- 64. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the soluble salt of the metal of group VIB is an ammonium salt.
- 65. (New) The process according to Claim 57, wherein the tetraalkylammonium hydroxide has the formula  $R_4$ NOH, wherein R is an alkyl group containing from 2 to 7 carbon atoms.
- 66. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising:
- a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a beta zeolite and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;
- b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R₄NOH;
  - c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous solution to obtain a gel;
  - d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;
  - e) drying the gel;
  - f) calcinating the gel; and
- g) impregnating the calcined product with a solution comprising a salt of a metal of group VIB, drying the impregnated calcined product, calcinating the impregnated calcined product, and impregnating the product with a solution of a salt of cobalt, drying the resultant product, and calcinating the resultant product.

- 67. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the catalytic composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides, comprising:
- a) preparing an alcoholic dispersion comprising a soluble salt of cobalt and one or more organic compounds capable of generating the supporting oxide or oxides;
- b) preparing an aqueous solution comprising a soluble salt of the metal of group VIB, and optionally, tetraalkylammonium hydroxide having the formula R₄NOH;
  - c) mixing the alcoholic dispersion and the aqueous dispersion to obtain a gel;
  - d) aging the gel at a temperature ranging from 10 to 40°C;
  - e) drying the gel;
  - f) mechanical mixing of the dried product with beta zeolite; and
  - g) calcinating the mixture.
- 8. (New) A process for the preparation of a catalytic composition, wherein the catalytic composition comprises a beta zeolite, a metal of group VIB, cobalt, and one or more oxides as a carrier, comprising.
- a) impregnating the oxide carrier with a salt of a metal of group VIB and a salt of cobalt;
  - b) drying and calcinating the impregnated material of step a); and
  - c) mixing the impregnated oxide obtained in step b) with the beta zeolite.

## SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-31 and 33-40 are canceled and rewritten as new Claims 41-68 for clarity and to comply with proper claim format, such as eliminating multiple dependent claims that do not refer to other claims in the alternative. Support for new Claims 41-68 is found at pages 1-